



A PROCLAMATION,

Discharging the Importing and Venting of Brandy, other Forraign Strong-Waters, Mum-Beer, and other Liquors made of Mault.



HARLES, by the Grace of God, King of Great Britain, France, and Ireland, Defender of the Faith, To

Macers, or Messengers at Arms, Our Sheriffs in that part, conjunctly and severally, specially constitute, Greeting ; Forasmuch as the Importation of Brandy, and other Forraign Waters ; and of Mum-beer, and other Liquors made of Mault ; being by long and constant experience found destructive to the Product and Manufactory of this Our Ancient Kingdom, and prejudicial to Our Customs. And whereas by the twenty sixth Act of the third Session of Our first *Parliament*, Our Royal Prerogative in the disposal and ordering of Trade with Forraign Nations, in the laying on of Restraints and Impositions upon Forraign imported Commodities, is asserted to belong to Us, and Our Successors, as an undoubted Prerogative of Our Crown. And therefore, and for the good and profite of Our said Kingdom, We with advice of Our Privy Council, Do discharge the importing, venting, and selling of Brandy, and all other Forraign Strong-waters ; as also of all Mum-beer, and all Forraign Liquors made of Mault (Spruce-beer, called Black-beer, only excepted,) after the first day of

November next, which time and no longer, is allowed for consuming of what is already Imported, or Exporting the same : And after that day, We hereby Command and Impower all Sheriffs, Stewarts, Bailiffs of Regalities, and Bailiaries, and their Deputes, Magistrates of Burghs Royal, Barons of Baronies, Commissioners of Excise, Justices of Peace, and all others in any publick Employment whatsoever, to stave and destroy the said Brandy, Mum-beer, and other Forraign Liquors foresaids, and Casks thereof, where ever the same can be found ; and the saids Magistrates, and all others foresaids, are hereby Impowered to execute this Our Commission within one and others Territories and Jurisdictions, as fully as within their own ; And We do hereby Ordain the Ships or Vessels wherein the said Brandy or Liquors foresaids shall happen to be Imported, to be confiscate and seized upon, by any of the saids Magistrates, or others foresaids ; the Skippers to be imprisoned, the Retailers fined in forty pound Scots, *toties quoties* ; the Customers who do either connive at, or cover any way the said unwarrantable Import, to lose the benefit of their Tack being Tacksmen, and otherways fined as the Lords of Our Privy Council shall find cause ; and if they be under Officers of the Custom-house, to be imprisoned and fined at the Judges pleasure, and declared incapable of any such trust thereafter ; and if Our Customs be not in Tack, the chief Collector, or Collectors, to be punished by deprivation, and a Years imprisonment ; and all Merchands and others, Importers of the said Brandy and other prohibited Liquors, are to be fined in the quadruple of the value thereof : And further, they, and any Burgees who shall vent and sell the same, shall lose and amit their Burgeships for ever. And further, We do hereby discharge the making of Brandy, or Strong-waters within this Kingdom hereafter, of any thing, except of Mault, under the pain of staving and destroying thereof, and the Makers thereof otherwise, or Venters of the same, are to suffer a Years imprisonment, beside the staving and destroying of the same by the Persons, and in manner toresaid. And to the effect this Our Prohibition may be the more effectual, We do hereby Declare, that all Persons, of what quality soever, who shall be found to be drinkers of Brandy, or of the other prohibited Liquors foresaids, after the said first day of *November* next, shall be fined in forty pound Scots, *toties quoties* ; the probation thereof, shall either be by Witnesses, or oath of Party. And it is hereby declared, that whosoever shall discover any of the Delinquencies of any of the Persons abovementioned, shall have the half of the Fines that shall happen to be imposed upon them, or any of them, for the said Delinquencies, and the other half of the Fines shall belong to the Magistrates who shall judge and prosecute the same. OUR Will is herefore, and We charge you strictly, and Command, that incontinent, these Our Letters seen, ye pass to the Mercat-cross of *Edinburgh*, Pear and Shore of *Leith*, and other places needful, and there by open Proclamation, make publication of the Premises ; Ordaining hereby the Tacksmen of Our Customes to send and affix Copies thereof at all their publick Offices of this Kingdom ; And that these Presents be printed, that none pretend ignorance. Given under Our Signet, at *Edinburgh*, the eighth day of *March*, One thousand six hundred and eighty Years, and of Our Reign the thirty two Year.

Per actum Dominorum Secreti Concilij,
AL. GIBSON, Cl. Sti. Concilij.

GOD save the King.

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8. May 1680